

2014 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

Tab	Action	Option	Version
67	1	A	1

Budget Action Title: Integrated plan and funding for Belltown Community Center

Councilmembers: Bagshaw; Clark; Conlin

Staff Analyst: Kathy Nyland

Date		Total	SB	BH	TR	RC	TB	NL	JG	SC	MO
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) provide a report to the Parks and Neighborhood Committee (or its 2014 equivalent) outlining a long-term strategy plan that would better integrate the Belltown Community Center into DPR's community center management model. This report should include:

- Detailed report on the attendance and usage of the Belltown community center.
- A report on the vision and plan for the future of the Belltown community center, including details on staffing models and partnerships, and a future funding source (i.e. Levy/MPD or other).

Background:

The 1999 Community Center Levy provided nearly \$2 million for a new community center for the Belltown neighborhood. Because of scarce real estate and high acquisition costs, the center didn't open until September 2012. The City used Levy funds for a seven year lease on a 6000 square foot facility that provides rooms for public meetings, classes and rentals, but no gymnasium. The lease agreement has an option to renew as well as provisions for the owner to stop the lease.

The Belltown Community Center operates differently than more traditional community centers. While it is staffed and operated by Parks, funding to support staffing is provided solely by ARC. Also, community members have keys to be able to open and use the center without staff present.

Based on "people counter" data, the community center with the fewest visits is Belltown. Although Belltown opened in September 2012, position authority to staff the site wasn't available until 2013. Staff are working to establish an advisory council to help build programs to better serve the community.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Parks and Neighborhoods

Date Due to Council: September 1, 2014